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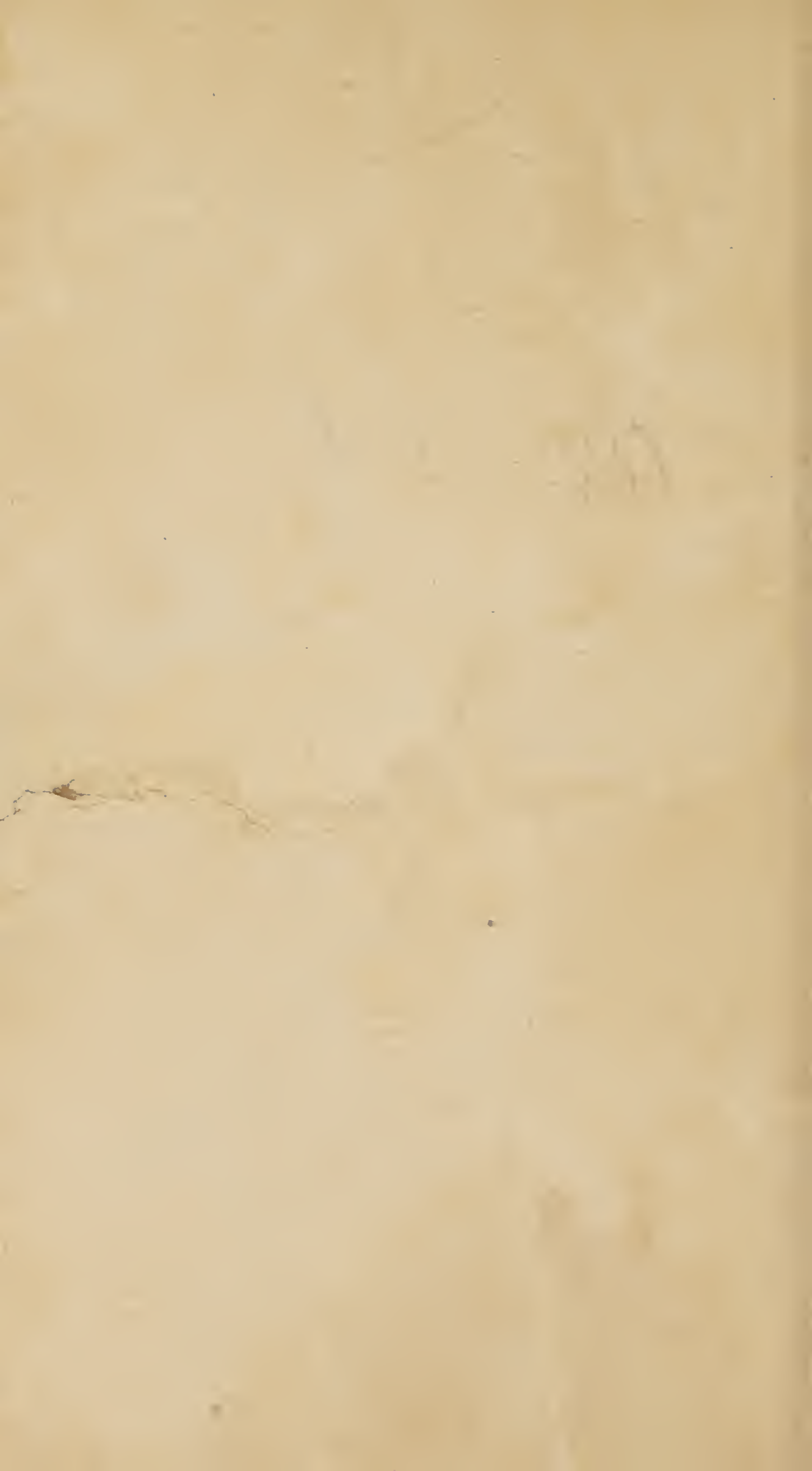
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With THE Link
C A S E

OF the RIGHT HONOURABLE

Thomas Winnington, Esq; &c.

[Price Sixpence.]





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T H E
C A S E

Of the RIGHT HONOURABLE

Thomas Winnington, Esq;

By *THOMAS THOMSON*, M. D.

Physician in Ordinary to His Royal Highness the Prince
of WALES's Household.

——— *Si quid novisti rectius istis,
Candidus imperti : Si non, his utere mecum.*



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T H E
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Of the RIGHT HONOURABLE

Thomas Winnington, Esq;

HOWEVER disagreeable Appeals of this kind may be, yet the scandalous Slanders that have been so industriously propagated, make it necessary for me at present, to stand forth in Defence of my Conduct, on a late melancholly Occasion: The Death of Mr. *Winnington*, who, I have the Honour to say, was my Friend, as well as Patient, afforded too sincere a Cause of Concern to need any Aggravation from the Voice of Calumny: However, I should have treated the Attacks of such Enemies with the Contempt they deserved, was I not apprehensive, that they are calculated to impose on the too easy Credulity of others. I am not insensible from
B what

what Quarter these poisoned Arrows are shot; *private Interest* evidently points out the Assassins; nor is it to be wondered, when the *Shrines are in Danger*, that the *Workmen should clamour in support of the Craft*.

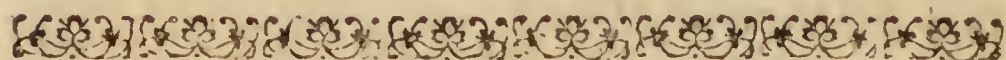
Whatever Pretences some may make to Infallibility, Experience too fatally proves it is no Attribute of the Physician; and indeed was every Professor to be accountable for the Success of his *Recipe*, I fear the Bills of Mortality would furnish copious Subjects of Enquiry on the Conduct of the Faculty. It is some Consolation, when I reflect, that this is the first Time I have been called to the Bar of the Public, during a successful Course of Practice; and that under the *Argus-ey'd* Inspection of some of my Brethren, who, I believe, will not be suspected of too great a Tenderness in concealing my Miscarriages. I may therefore at least claim the Indulgence of a young Offender, nor shall I ever be hardy enough to vye with the most eminent of those learned Gentlemen in Physical Atchievements; for though, like *Saul*, I be allowed to have slain my Thousands, they will still have the Advantage with
David,

David, of having sacrificed ten Times the Number.

As all Reformations in their Beginning have been branded with the odious Names of Heresy and Faction, no wonder an Attempt to introduce *one* in Physic should be attended with the same Fatality, and the Promoter of it exposed to the Fury of some Inquisitors, whose Endeavours are rather to skreen the *Errors* and disguise the *Arts*, than ease the Expence, and promote the real Science of Medicine: Hence the Practice in Physic, like Mysteries in Religion, is inculcated as a Point of Faith, not of Reason; and, indeed, an implicit Belief in the Virtue of a *Diploma*, is often the best Security for the Reputation of the *Doctor*. I could furnish some illustrious Examples in support of this Truth; but as my present Business is Defence, not Accusation, I shall reserve them till (as the Royal Psalmist observes) *mine own Offences are wiped away, and my Sins, which are now said to be as Scarlet, shall become white as Snow.*

In order to effect this, I shall lay before the Public a fair State of Mr. *Winnington's* Case, unclouded with the Sophistry of Argument, and supported only by the Evidence

dence of Facts : After stating the various Symptoms that attended the Distemper, I shall explain the different Applications, which I judged conducive to the Cure ; but as the magical Characters of a modern Prescription, are too mysterious for common Apprehension, I hope my Brethren will excuse me, should I, for the Sake of being more generally understood, so far deviate from the Rules of Art, as to render mine into plain *English*.



The C A S E.

THE latter End of *March*, Mr. *Winnington* was seized, suddenly, with a Shivering, Head-ach, great Lassitude, with wandering Rheumatic Pains ; he went to Bed, grew feverish, and was bled in the Morning before I had the Honour to attend him : When I came, I found his Blood inflamed, but Bleeding had relieved him. I proposed his taking a little cooling Physic, and observing a low Regimen ; these Directions I thought necessary, in order to prevent a Rheumatic Fever, which, at that Time, I apprehended would be the Case. The Physic I ordered was only a
few

few Pills (just to keep the Body open) made of *Cassia* and *Tamarines*, *Chrystals of Tartar*, *Nitre*, *Jalap*, &c. as the State of the Distemper was now no more than a general Cold (yet a common Cold is a kind of Fever.) In this feverish State Mr. *Winnington* went into the Country.

On the 6th of *April*, the Day of his Return, I was again sent for, when I found him in as high a Fever as Man could bear: Upon Enquiry whether he had taken the Physic I last ordered, I found he had not; and that instead of observing the low Regimen, he had drank Wine, eat Meat, and lived after his usual Manner: The Weather too, at this Time, was very unhealthy, and produced inflammatory Fevers. These Causes all co-operating, and in a morbid Constitution, naturally prone to Heat and Inflammation, no wonder the whole Mass of Humours were set on Fire, and that an acute Fever ensued. His Pulse was extremely high, hard, and quick; great Thirst, Pains in the Loins, Head, Shoulders, and Thighs; his Water almost as red as Blood, costive, the Stomach and Bowels full of Wind, and something of a sore Throat. I ordered ten or twelve Ounces of Blood to be taken away immediately;

diately; Barley-Water, common Whey, Milk and Water, Whey turned with *Cream of Tartar*, or Juice of *Orange*, were the common Liquors I thought proper to dilute with, during the whole Course of the Disease, and which he constantly drank freely of. His Diet, Sagoe, Gruels, Panado, Oatmeal-Caudle, roasted Apples, Milk-Porridge.

April 7. In the Morning I perceived the Symptoms rather increased, and that a Sweating had begun in the Night. I directed some gentle cooling Physic, which operated very slowly, as usual in very high Inflammations. This Evening the Rheumatic Pains increased, but little Water made, without any breaking, and almost as red as Blood.

April 8. In the Morning I was informed he had slept but little, and had sweated profusely the preceding Night. The Fever, Pains, Pulse, and Urine, were as high as if no Evacuations had been; which made me direct bleeding again, about ten Ounces: I ordered Salts, and *Aceton* Water, with an Electuary made of *Cassia*, *Tamarines*, *Nitre*, *Chrystals of Tartar*, and about ten Grains of *Jallap* in each Dose, which

which he took frequently, but was purged with great Difficulty. A considerable Quantity of these Medicines, I believe, operated but three or four Times, which was the Reason I would direct no Opiate until the Fever should be brought lower by more Evacuations, fearing that the Head, hitherto clear, might be affected by the Membranes of the Brain inflaming. At Night he took an Emulsion of Almonds, and the cooling Seeds.

April 9. I found the Sweats had been excessive in the Night, which made me think it improper he should be confined to his Bed ; and as the profuse Sweating was not critical, but a plain Indication of the Increase, rather than Decline, of the Fever, I thought it necessary to repeat the *Manna Draught*.

April 10. The same Difficulty remained of finding any Medicine that would move the Body : This was my Reason for directing Glysters of the Pectoral Decoction, with Lenitive Electuary ; besides a Repetition of the purging Medicines ; all which produced but three or four Motions : I perceived one of his Hands began to swell. In the Evening the Fever was
higher

higher than ever, and from the Pulse and Water it could not have been judged there had been any Evacuations, the one being so very high coloured, and the other so extremely quick and full: I directed a Pint of the Emulsion of Almonds, and cooling Seeds, with two or three Drams of the Syrup of Poppies.

April 11. I was informed he slept but little in the Night, and that his Sweats increased, especially towards the Morning: From the Violence of the Symptoms, I thought proper to have more Blood taken away, which was exceedingly inflamed, and directed that the cooling Physic and Glysters should be repeated till he had six or seven Motions, which with difficulty were obtained; this Procedure brought the Symptoms first to decline, for in the Evening the Water began to break, though still very high-coloured, the Pains abated, the Pulse became more equal and softer, and not so quick, the swelling of his Hands increased (which I esteemed a good Sign,) and he seemed to have much more Strength and Livelyness. I was informed Dr. *Broxholme* had attended in the Afternoon, and had the Satisfaction to hear that he approved the Method I had pursued, and was of
Opinion

Opinion with me that Bleeding, Diluting and Purging (without Cordial or heating Medicines) were the proper Means in such an inflammatory Fever. At Night when we met in Consultation he confirmed his Opinion to me, we both liked the swelling of the Hands, and as his Water began to break and the rest of the Symptoms appeared more favourable, we desisted from more Evacuations, unless a Glyster for the next Morning. We repeated the Emulsion, and also directed a little Pearl Julep, with some Nitre and Pearl in Powders, but without any of the Cordial Waters.

April 12. Nothing was thought necessary to be prescribed, unless the Emulsion at Night.

April 13. We were informed that the Sweating had returned in the Night almost as much as ever, the Water had only a light Cloud in it, and was very high-coloured, the Fever seemed rather to rise, and the Pulse was very full and swift: I proposed Bleeding again, perceiving the Fever very obstinate, the Sweats increasing, and the Body very difficult to be moved; for besides the Glyster of two Ounces of Lenitive-Electuary, I was obliged to give him some Salts in *Acton* Water to obtain even a

Motion or two. This occasioned Dr. *Broxholme* and myself to think Bleeding again necessary, and at Night to repeat the Emulsion.

April 14. We met again in the Morning, the Symptoms were much as the preceding Day, the Sweating in the Night had been something less, the Hands rather more swelled, but the Water did not break. Dr. *Broxholme* and I agreed in Opinion, That if the Symptoms of Inflammation did not increase, we might without danger omit Bleeding; and indeed if it could possibly be avoided, I thought taking away much Blood from Mr. *Winnington* in that Condition very improper, being apprehensive it might bring on a Dropsy, which is often the Consequence of too great an Effusion of Blood; yet by being too cautious of splitting on this Rock, the Inflammation often treacherously gains the Ascendant, and the Patient dyes of a Mortification, the fatal End of almost all Inflammations, *Hi omnes moriuntur quasi morbo pestilentiali*, BOOERHAAVE. Though we desisted from Bleeding, we were sensible he must not be suffered to remain costive, for which reason the Glysters were continued, nor were they sufficient without some cooling Physic. I had now the Unhappiness
to

to be deprived of the Assistance of this learned Gentleman, by his return into the Country, and to whose known Honour I shall refer for the Truth of this Part of the Narrative.

April 15. Mr. *Winnington* continued much in the same way as when Dr. *Broxholme* left him, only the Rheumatic Pains abated, though the Fever still continued; the Medicines the same.

April 16. The Water suddenly grew pale, and the Quantity was very great. I perceived his Hearing was not so good, nor had he slept as he used to do in the Day, and after he went to Bed till two in the Morning. He had three or four Motions this Day from the cooling Physic.

April 17. He slept, and as I thought rather too much, it appearing to me something lethargic; his Thirst was very great, the Tongue and Lips parched, the Aspect bad, with great Weakness, but the Pulse very hard and quick, and beat as if they presaged an Hæmorrhage; his Hands were very arid, and when pressed by mine discovered a piercing Heat: Upon considering these Symptoms, I was some Time dubious

whether I had not been too remiss in Evacuations, and whether I had not trusted too much to the swelling of the Hands ; but I was soon convinced of what I before apprehended, for the Blood gushed from his Nostrils, and a few Hours after he bled again : Hence it was demonstrable, that let the quantity of Blood lost before, be what it would, yet the Inflammation rose and feebly attempted a Crisis. I was now convinced it was something more than a common Rheumatic Fever, the great quantity of Wind in the Stomach, the pale crude Water, the parched Lips and dry Tongue, the swift hard Pulse, the pale wan Aspect, the great Thirst, Deafness, and lastly, the great difficulty of any Medicines moving the Body downwards ; these Symptoms, considered together, induced me to tell Mr. *Winnington* that I believed something more remained, and desiring to examine his Throat, I there found what I feared, the Aphthæ, or *Ægyptian* or *Syrian* Ulcer, as termed by the Ancients, but, in our Language, the Thrush ; a Disease scarcely observed by our modern Writers in Physic. The Mouth, Tongue, Gums, and Inside of the Lips were yet free and untouched, and as the Ulcers were now white, and not very dense, I imagined if the Fever which governed them could be kept under, there would
be

be little Danger ; for this reason I discontinued even so light an Opiat as the Emulsion, and determined to push the Evacuations farther in the Morning : I ordered his Throat to be frequently gargled with Honey of Roses, and the pectoral Decoction made a little acid with the Spirits of Vitriol, and the Ulcers to be touched with the Honey of Roses and Nitre, to drink freely of common Whey, Milk and Water, the Diet to remain as usual.

April 18. I found the Thrush rather increased, and that the Hæmorrhage had not in the least controuled the Fever, the Pulse being harder and swifter than I had ever observed them in the Mornings, since the five first Days. I ordered him to be Bled, and as the Sweating unhappily continued, thought it proper to take away a larger Quantity than I had ever done before ; I believe it was about fourteen Ounces; the Blood flew as if it were syringed out of his Arm, and appeared worse than any before. He had I think two Motions the preceding Night, and five this Day by Glysters and cooling Physic, and some of the Thrush fell and came away ; the Physic operated with more Ease than I had ever observed before, which in my Opinion was a favourable Prognostic,
but

but shewed that the Thrush went through the Body. This Afternoon the Pulse was softer, and not so quick, the Water not quite so pale, nor in so large a Quantity, and was a little separated.

April 18. I was informed that in the Night the Sweats returned; that he bled again at the Nose, and in the Morning brought up some Blood, whether from his Head, Lungs, or Throat, I cannot determine. This satisfied me that it was necessary to take away about seven Ounces of Blood more, which issued very freely, and was much inflamed: Part of the Thrush fell whenever it was syringed, but returned again, and the Pulse remained much in the same State as Yesterday; the Respiration was deep and interrupted, especially when he slept, which was rather more than natural, and with great Inquietude; he would frequently get up, and stand, or walk; and when he first rose generally made Water. He now began to expectorate, and what he did was pretty easy. This Evening Dr. *Broxholme* came to Town, and when we met, both had still Hopes of his Recovery. We directed a Repetition of the Glysters, and ordered two small Blisters to the Arms; and provided

vided the former should not have a proper Effect, a Diffolution of *Manna* and *Nitre*, and *Rob of Elder*, in a Decoction of Figs, Raisins, &c. The Thrush made no Progress; but none came away by Stool. Dr. *Broxholme*, and myself, agreed that Cordials, Volatiles, and what are termed nervous Medicines, were improper, (notwithstanding he had now frequently Spasms) because of the intense Heat and Putrefaction of the Humours.

April 19. This Day passed much as the former, and although the Thrush increased a little, at Night we had still Hopes.

April 20. This Morning all the Symptoms remained much in the same State, only the Water was something higher coloured: But, in the Afternoon the Thrush came forward, spread over most Part of his Mouth, even to the Inside of the Lips, and was more opaque and yellowish. I immediately left the Room; and Mrs. *Masham*, observing my Surprise, said, I seemed frightened: I replied, I was, for that Mr. *Winnington's* Fate depended on the Event of Four and Twenty Hours.

I told the Lady I should propose a purging Medicine ; and if five or six thorough Motions could be obtained between that Time and the Morrow Morning, and Part of the Thrush be brought away, he might yet recover ; because I apprehended the Disease was come to a Crisis ; if not, I feared he would die before the next Night. Dr. *Broxbolme* was also of this Opinion, and we directed an Infusion of *Senna*, with *Manna*, *Nitre*, *Salts*, &c. and it so fell out, that the Circumstances of the Disease required the gentlest kind of Physic that could be devised : And that we might be assured of not going beyond the Strength of the Patient, and yet far enough to obtain our Point in View, we ordered only a Spoonful to be taken at a Time, till so many Motions were procured, but to stop when that was effected. The Lady earnestly enquired, if Dr. *Broxbolme*, or I, could think of any other Medicine. We replied, we could not, and then parted, after having appointed Nine in the Morning for our next Meeting.

Before Twelve that Night, I received a Letter from Mr. *Wilton*, (who faithfully attended his Master during his whole Illness) to inform me that Mr. *Winnington* began

began to be faint, swallowed with great Difficulty, and desired to know what should be given to support him. I sent Word, only to continue the last Medicine. About Three o'Clock I was sent for, to meet Dr. *Broxholme*, and Sir *Edward Hulse*. When I came, I found Sir *Edward* with several Draughts by him on the Table, which he had prescribed. He told me, that he had known the Bark, and Alum, of which these Medicines were composed, of great Service in a *Diabetes*. I replied, that neither Dr. *Broxholme*, or myself, had any Regard to the Water, which proceeded from the State of the Disease ; but that we wholly confined ourselves to the Thrush, which was now growing dry, the Respiration shorter, and the Pulse falling. He pressed the giving these Medicines : I told him, that notwithstanding I thought them very improper in the present State of such a Disease, yet he had my Consent to give them, or any other, since I was at the End of my Judgment, nor could take upon me to suggest any Thing. However, I observed, that if he took any Astringents, he could not live many Hours. I then took Leave, and left my Honourable Friend and Patient in the Hands of

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Sir

Sir *Edward*, and never saw him more. I am informed, that he fell into a cold profuse Sweat, and died at Ten in the Morning.



The Reader will please to observe, that in the State of this Case, I have confined myself merely to Facts, and have reserved all argumentative Justification of my Practice, till some learned Gentleman of the Faculty shall think proper to dispute the Rectitude of it.

Thus stands the loud-clamoured Case of Mr. *Winnington* : If I have introduced any Thing new either in the Discipline or Practice of Physic in this Kingdom, not supported by vain Hypotheses, but founded upon Reason, and agreeable to the Maxims of the Ancients, I see no Reason, why I should be opposed in so outrageous a Manner : But, if I have erred, it must be confessed, that I have now generously given my Enemies an Opportunity of indulging their Malice. And, indeed, when it is considered, how intimately the Welfare of Mankind depends on a right Practice

tice in Physic, it is certainly the Duty of every Professor to expose all Deviations from it. It therefore remains with my Accusers, either to justify their Clamour by my Conviction, or establish my Reputation by their Confusion.

I flatter myself, in this Case, I have the Weapons both of Reason and Authority for my Guard, and with these shall endeavour to maintain my Opinion against any fair Opponent, who, if so fortunate as to disarm me, shall find me ready enough to acknowledge his Physical Superiority. I do not mean by this to enter the Lists, with the buzzing Tribe of *Grubstreet* Pamphleteers, or anonymous Libellers, whose End in Writing is rather to asperse, than inform ; nor shall I think it incumbent on me to take Notice of any Piece, that has not the Sanction of a Name, which may spare my Blush in the Contention.

Should I on this melancholly Subject acquit myself to the Satisfaction of the Public, it would prove but poor Consolation for the Loss of so valuable a Friend ; yet it is to be hoped my approved Innocence will add some Degree of Weight
to

to my Credibility, when I shall recriminate on my Accusers, and convince Mankind, on the Authority of some *late Cases*, that common Honesty is not always essential to the present Practice of Physic, nor Omniscience the Characteristic of some eminent Professors of it.

The only Motive that can induce me to trouble the Public, is an Ambition to see such a Discipline and Practice in Physic established, as may prove of general Utility. An Ambition, I hope, becoming an honest Man, who professes a disinterested Obedience to Reason and Experience, and contends for Truth only, not Triumph.

F I N I S.

